

**NASDTEC INTERSTATE
EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE
AGREEMENT [2005-2010]**

SECTION I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a process under which a person prepared or certified in one Member may obtain a certificate from another Member.

SECTION II. DEFINITIONS

As used in this Agreement:

- A. "Accredited institution" means a college or university which awards a baccalaureate or higher degree and which is fully accredited:
1. for an institution located within the United States, by one of the following regional accrediting bodies:
 - a. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
 - b. New England Association of Schools and Colleges
 - c. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
 - d. Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
 - e. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
 - f. Western Association of Schools and Colleges
 2. for an institution located in a Member Jurisdiction outside the United States, accreditation by the responsible national education agency, or by an entity approved by the national education agency for that purpose. If no such process exists, an institution shall be considered to be accredited upon a finding by the Member that the institution would meet minimum requirements for accreditation established by one of the regional accrediting bodies listed under Subsection II.A.1. were the institution to be located within the United States.
- B. "Administrator" means an educator whose primary duties involve:
1. program development, or
 2. supervision or internal management of a school, school program, school system, or other certified educators.
- C. "Advanced requirement" means any criterion, such as a master's or higher degree, required by a Member for a Level III certificate.

- D. "Alternative preparation" means preparation of educational personnel through completion of requirements that are recognized by formal action of the appropriate agency of the issuing Member and
1. meet the issuing Member's standards; and
 2. require competent performance in the full range of knowledge and skills required for the position.
- E. "Alternative preparation certificate" means a certificate issued by a Member Jurisdiction to individuals who are participating in alternative preparation as prescribed in the NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001. The alternative preparation certificate may be renewed annually, not to exceed three years for individuals successfully meeting the alternative preparation criteria specified in NCLB, Federal Register, Vol. 67, No. 231, 200.56(ii)(A). The alternative preparation certificate is state-specific and not accepted by other Member Jurisdictions.
- F. "Ancillary requirement" means any of the following: minimum grade-point average, standardized testing or assessment, mentoring, experience, graduation from an accredited institution, or possession of a valid certificate or any other statutory or jurisdictional administrative requirement.
- G. "Approved program" means completion of all requirements for preparation of educational personnel which was offered through an accredited institution or Member Jurisdiction approved alternative preparation and, at the time the applicant completed the program:
1. was approved by the agency responsible for approval of programs or for certification of educational personnel in the Member Jurisdiction in which the program was provided;
 2. required completion of a baccalaureate;
 3. included a supervised field experience; and
 4. consisted of courses and education experiences which qualified the applicant for certification in the Member Jurisdiction in which the program was provided.
- H. "Certificate" means license or credential.
- I. "Educator" means a teacher, administrator, or support professional required by the Member Jurisdiction to hold a certificate.
- J. "Issuing Member" means a Member which issued a certificate.
- K. "Level I certificate" means a certificate issued, upon completion of an approved program, to an applicant who has met requirements of the issuing Member relating to citizenship and

moral, ethical, physical, or mental fitness, but has not completed ancillary requirements for a Level II certificate.

- L. "Level II certificate" means a certificate issued to an applicant who has met requirements of the issuing Member for a Level I certificate, and has also completed all ancillary requirements established by the Member.
- M. "Level III certificate" means a certificate issued to an applicant who has met requirements of the issuing Member for a Level II certificate, and has also completed all advanced requirements established by the Member.
- N. "Member" or "Member Jurisdiction" means an entity which is a voting member of NASDTEC and a party to this Agreement.
- O. "Pre-level 1 certificate" means a certificate issued to individuals who are participating in an alternative licensure program and who have met requirements of the issuing member relating to citizenship and moral, ethical, physical, or mental fitness, but has not completed ancillary requirements for a Level I certificate.
- P. "Receiving Member" means a Member Jurisdiction in which an educator seeks to obtain certification.
- Q. "Recency requirement" means a requirement which limits the amount of time which may pass between completion of a requirement for certification and application for certification.
- R. "School" means an institution, other than a home school, which offers instruction for students of any grade, birth-Grade 12, which satisfies the compulsory attendance requirements of the Member in which the institution is located.
- S. "Support professional" means a person, other than a teacher or administrator, who is required to hold a certificate based upon not less than a baccalaureate.
- T. "Teacher" means a person whose primary responsibility is to instruct students.
- U. "Vocational educator" means a teacher who holds a certificate requiring demonstrated occupational competence in the area of certification.

SECTION III. ESTABLISHING ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE UNDER THE NASDTEC INTERSTATE AGREEMENT

A. Bases for eligibility common to all parties under this Agreement:

1. Completion of an approved program: an applicant shall be entitled to certification based upon completion of an approved program if the applicant presents reasonable proof to the receiving Member that the following requirements have been met:

- a. completion of an approved program in a comparable or broader discipline;
 - b. compliance with any requirements of the receiving Member relating to citizenship and moral, ethical, physical, or mental fitness;
 - c. compliance with all recency requirements of the receiving Member;
 - d. compliance with all ancillary requirements of the receiving Member common to all comparable certificates issued by that Member; and
 - e. completion of any post-baccalaureate study required by the receiving Member.
2. Completion of an approved program, certification, and experience: an applicant shall be entitled to certification based upon completion of an approved program, certification and experience if the applicant presents reasonable proof to the receiving Member that the following requirements have been met.
- a. completion of an approved program in a comparable or broader discipline;
 - b. possession of a valid Level II or III certificate issued by a Member;
 - c. compliance with any requirements of the receiving Member relating to citizenship and moral, ethical, physical, or mental fitness;
 - d. compliance with all ancillary requirements of the receiving Member common to all comparable certificates issued by that Member;
 - e. completion of any post-baccalaureate study required by the receiving Member; and
 - f. provision of satisfactory service as an educator in a school, in an assignment covered by the certification which is sought, on at least a half-time basis in one or more other Member Jurisdictions for not fewer than twenty-seven months during the seven years immediately preceding application for certification by the receiving Member.
3. The alternative preparation certificate (Pre-Level I) is jurisdiction-specific and not accepted by other jurisdictions under Section (A) on page 4 and Section (B) on page 5.

B. Bases for eligibility which may, by express concurrence of the affected Members as reported to the NASDTEC Executive Director, be available under this Agreement:

1. Alternative preparation: if both the issuing Member and the receiving Member have accepted this Subsection, an applicant shall be entitled to certification based upon alternative preparation if the applicant presents reasonable proof to the receiving Member that the following requirements have been met. NOTE: the alternative preparation certificate (Pre-Level I) is jurisdiction-specific and not required to be accepted by other jurisdictions under Sections III. A and III.B. (Refer to definition under Section II.E.)

- a. possession of at least a Level I certificate;
 - b. possession of a baccalaureate and completion of an alternative preparation program leading to certification by the issuing Member;
 - c. compliance with any requirements of the receiving Member relating to, citizenship and moral, ethical, physical, or mental fitness;
 - d. compliance with all recency requirements of the receiving Member;
 - e. compliance with all ancillary requirements of the receiving Member common to all comparable certificates issued by that Member; and
 - f. completion of any post-baccalaureate study required by the receiving Member.
2. Certification and experience: if both the issuing Member and the receiving Member have accepted this Subsection, an applicant shall be entitled to certification in the receiving Member based upon certification and experience if the applicant presents reasonable proof to the receiving Member that the following requirements have been met:
 - a. completion of a baccalaureate and possession of a valid Level II or Level III certificate in a comparable or broader discipline issued by a Member;
 - b. compliance with any requirements of the receiving Member relating to citizenship and moral, ethical, physical, or mental fitness;
 - c. compliance with all ancillary requirements of the receiving Member common to all comparable certificates issued by that Member;
 - d. completion of any post-baccalaureate study required by the receiving Member; and
 - e. provision of satisfactory service as an educator in a school, in an assignment covered by the certification which is sought, on at least a half-time basis in one or more other Member Jurisdictions for not fewer than twenty-seven months during the seven years immediately preceding application for certification by the receiving Member.
3. Recognition of Level II or Level III certification: if both the issuing Member and the receiving Member have accepted this Subsection, an applicant shall be entitled to receive not less than a Level II certificate in the receiving Member based upon comparable level certification if the applicant presents reasonable proof to the receiving member that the following requirements have been met:
 - a. possession of a valid Level II or III certificate issued by a Member;

- b. compliance with any requirements of the receiving Member regarding experience, degrees held, citizenship, and moral, ethical, physical, and mental fitness; and
 - c. completion of any post-baccalaureate study required by the receiving Member.
4. Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS): if both the issuing Member and the receiving Member have accepted this Subsection, an applicant shall be entitled to issuance of the highest level certificate included within the scope of the NBPTS certification if the applicant presents reasonable proof to the receiving member that the following requirements have been met:
- a. possession of a valid NBPTS certificate;
 - b. possession of a corresponding, valid certificate (at least a Level 1) issued by any Member;
 - c. compliance with any requirements of the receiving Member regarding experience, degrees held, citizenship, and moral, ethical, physical, and mental fitness; and
 - d. completion of any post-baccalaureate study required by the receiving Member.

SECTION IV. PROCEDURE FOR MEMBER PARTICIPATION

- A. Each member shall submit a report to the NASDTEC Executive Director using the form contained in Addendum I listing, for each other Member:
 - 1. the bases for certification which it is willing to accept in addition to those set forth under Subsection III.A.; and
 - 2. the categories (i.e. administrative, teacher, instructional support, vocational educator) of certificates which it is willing to accept.
- B. A Member may add or delete recognition of certificates or other bases for recognition issued by another Member by providing written notice to the NASDTEC Executive Director using the form contained in Addendum I. The change will take effect upon publication in the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement Participation Status Report.
- C. The NASDTEC Executive Director shall provide for preparation of a current NASDTEC Interstate Agreement Participation Status Report incorporating the information received, and place an updated copy of the compiled report on the NASDTEC web site at least twice a year for access by member jurisdictions, or provide a hardcopy to members on request.
- D. The undersigned Member shall issue certificates as reported on the form contained in Addendum I and shown on the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement Participation Status Report to applicants who have met the requirements of this Agreement.

SECTION V. DUTIES OF MEMBERS

- A. Each Member shall enforce quality standards for preparation programs by:
1. adopting program approval standards;
 2. requiring each preparation program provider to submit evidence satisfactory to the Member that preparation programs meet or exceed applicable standards;
 3. conducting periodic site visits at least once every seven years;
 4. providing, upon request by another Member, a copy of the standards and procedures for program approval; and
 5. permitting representatives of other Members to observe site visits of preparation programs seeking approval.
- B. Each Member shall provide notice of approved preparation programs to other Members by:
1. maintaining a current list, by institution, of approved preparation programs, specifying the areas of preparation and whether the programs are undergraduate or graduate level;
 2. maintaining a current list, by provider, of alternative preparation programs, specifying the areas of preparation;
 3. forwarding a copy of the lists to the Executive Director of NASDTEC and the Interstate Representative for each Member by October 1 of each year;
 4. providing timely notice to the Executive Director of NASDTEC if significant changes occur which affect the accuracy of the lists; and
 5. providing timely notification to the Executive Director of NASDTEC if significant changes occur in standards for approval of preparation programs or certification.
- C. A Member may not apply more stringent certification requirements to persons applying for certification under this Agreement than to other applicants.
- D. The certificate issued by a receiving Member under this Agreement may be more limited in scope than the certificate granted by the issuing Member if the receiving Member does not issue a certificate equal in scope to that granted by the issuing Member. The scope of the certificate issued by the receiving Member shall recognize areas of significant preparation or experience presented by the applicant which were included within the scope of the certificate granted by the issuing Member.
- E. Each Member shall notify the NASDTEC Educator Information Clearinghouse immediately upon denial, suspension, revocation, or surrender of an educator's certificate. The notice

shall include the educator's name, birthdate, identification number (Social Security number or, for Members outside the United States, an equivalent identification number), and the grounds for the action taken. If the certificate is subsequently reinstated, timely notice of the reinstatement shall also be given to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse. Notice shall not be required during the pendency of any appeal of an action for suspension or revocation.

- F. Nothing in this Agreement shall prohibit a Member from granting certification to any person.
- G. A certificate issued under this Agreement shall not be affected by termination or expiration of the Agreement.

SECTION VI. DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT

- A. This Agreement shall have duration until September 30 of each year ending in a five or a zero, unless terminated as provided below. The Agreement shall be automatically renewed in the then-current format for each subsequent five-year period unless written notice of intent not to renew is given to the Executive Director of NASDTEC by July 1 of the final year of an Agreement period.
- B. A Member may withdraw from the Agreement upon one year's written notice to the Executive Director of NASDTEC who shall in turn notify all other affected members. It shall be incumbent upon the Executive Director to notify other members.
- C. The NASDTEC Executive Board by and through the Chair of the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement Committee shall be responsible for administration and interpretation of this agreement.

SECTION VII. ASSURANCES

- A. In signing this Agreement on behalf of my Jurisdiction, I certify that:
 - 1. I am authorized to do so;
 - 2. This Agreement does not conflict with any applicable law or regulation to which my Jurisdiction is subject;
 - 3. This Agreement has been reviewed and accepted by those bodies responsible for certification of educators in this Jurisdiction; and
 - 4. Timely written notice will be given to the Executive Director of NASDTEC should any conflicting law, regulation, or policy be adopted by my Jurisdiction.
- B. Once every five years my jurisdiction will provide the Executive Director of NASDTEC with a certificate of Agreement compliance on a form to be provided by NASDTEC.

APPROVED AND ACKNOWLEDGED

MEMBER JURISDICTION: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Agency: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

ADDENDUM I

In addition to issuing certificates under Subsection III.A. of the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement to applicants from Member Jurisdictions indicated below, this Jurisdiction shall also issue certificates under Subsection III.B.1., "Alternative preparation," Subsection III.B.2., "Certification and experience," Subsection III.B.3., "Recognition of Level II or certification," or Subsection III.B.4., "Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS)," as indicated below.

Appendix A

MEMBER JURISDICTION _____

Directions: For each category of certification or licensure, and for each jurisdiction with which you wish to sign, place in the appropriate box:

A to indicate acceptance of required Subsections III.A.1 and 2 **and**,
if appropriate,

B1 to indicate acceptance of **optional** Subsection III.B.1; or

B2 to indicate acceptance of **optional** Subsection III.B.2; or

B3 to indicate acceptance of **optional** Subsection III.B.3; or

B4 to indicate acceptance of **optional** Subsection III.B.4 (Teacher option only); or

B1234 or any combination thereof to indicate acceptance of more than one of the **optional** subsections.

CATEGORIES OF CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE

	TEACHER	ADMINISTRATOR	SUPPORT	VOCATIONAL
Alabama				
Alaska				
American Samoa				
Arizona				
Arkansas				
British Columbia				
California				
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
Department of Defense Dependents Schools				
District of Columbia				

	TEACHER	ADMINISTRATOR	SUPPORT	VOCATIONAL
Florida				
Georgia				
Guam				
Hawaii				
Idaho				
Illinois				
Indiana				
Iowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland				
Massachusetts				
Michigan				
Minnesota				
Mississippi				
Missouri				
Montana				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York				
New Zealand				
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Northern Mariana Islands				
Ohio				

	TEACHER	ADMINISTRATOR	SUPPORT	VOCATIONAL
Oklahoma				
Ontario				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Puerto Rico				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Spain				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				